

YATELEY SCHOOL GCSE OPTIONS BOOKLET

Humanities

History

Geography

Religious Studies

Technology

3D Design

Child Development

Food Prep and Nutrition

Graphics

Arts and PE

Art and Design

Dance

Drama

Music

Physical Education

Modern Foreign Languages

Spanish

German

French

Specialist Subjects

Business Studies

Computer Science

English Language

English Literature

Mathematics

Science

PSHE and Core PE

Core Curriculum

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KEY DATES

Welcome to the GCSE option process! The subjects and qualifications you study over Years 10 and 11 will affect how you spend your time during your next two years at Yateley. It could also help set you up for the career or college course you want later on, so it is a very important process. Below is an outline of the important upcoming events:

YEAR 9 OPTION PROCESS 2022-23

Introduction and welcome

In order to provide appropriate information and guidance in making choices, we have devised a full programme to support your child. The key events in the programme are:

Available Now: Introductory Video for the Y9 options Process

To maximise convenience for families we are introducing the Y9 Options Process via a pre-recorded video available here instead of an evening event. We recommend watching the whole video with your child as it will be very helpful in preparing them for the upcoming option process. If you later wish to recap and get specific answers to particular questions, then please use the direct timestamps below:



Welcome to the process	HERE	How to make my choices	HERE
Core subjects I have to study	HERE	Subjects you can't pick together	HERE
Science double or science triple?	HERE	What if a course is oversubscribed	HERE
The EBacc: Why is it so important?	HERE	Where can I go for more help?	HERE
What subjects do you offer?	HERE	New subjects for GCSE and a final reminder!	HERE

Thursday 24 November 2022: Y9 Progress Reports

Year 9 progress reports for the Autumn term are sent to parents and students via email. Our reporting system has changed (as communicated previously) to focus on areas of strength and development as well as overall effort. All subjects still report whether a student is a "progress cause for concern" and also the GCSE target grades that students should be aiming for if they continue the subject into GCSE. We hope that the upcoming progress report will help inform decision making about subjects of interest to carry forward to Key Stage 4.

Parents' Evening Booking

From: Thursday 24 November 2022

To: Wednesday 30 November 2022

Our Parents' Evening booking system goes live to parents wishing to make appointments with teachers of Year 9 subjects. **Parents' Evening will be in-person at Yateley School.**

Thursday 01 December 2022: Meet with Subject leaders at KS4

You will also have the chance to book appointments with subjects that are only taught at GCSE (Business Studies, Childcare and Graphics) in addition to meeting your child's current teachers. Please consider booking an appointment with any subjects that you may be interested in as it helps us meet those that really need support/advice. I will also be available for general questions about Y9 options and subjects you may be interested in, so please do book an appointment if that would be of help!

Making Your Choices – Completing the Options Form 2023

From: Tuesday 03 January 2023

To: Tuesday 10 January 2023

Our Options form will be given to students on the first day they return to school in January 2023.

Very important: *There is **no priority** given to students booking earlier or later in the Options window, students are encouraged to take their time and think about their choices. Students can edit choices after submission in discussion with their tutor.*

And finally...

If you have any questions at all about the Year 9 Options process then please contact peter.hill@yateley.hants.sch.uk and I will be more than happy to help!

Yours sincerely

Mr Peter Hill
Deputy Headteacher – Curriculum and Progress

THE CURRICULUM AT KEY STAGE 4

How do I choose my options?

There are some subjects that are so important that everyone has to take them, but you also have option choices in Year 9 that are the first steps in deciding your future. To help, start by asking yourself what you enjoy doing and what you're good at.

Think about:

- What you're interested in: it could be other cultures and languages, writing projects, helping people, being outdoors or designing things?
- What types of activity you enjoy most - working things out and thinking them through, practical activities or artistic options like painting, acting, drawing or performing in music events?
- What you're like at home, as well as in school - what skills have you developed following outside interests?

Don't think about:

- What your friends are choosing. Even if you pick the same subjects you are unlikely to be placed in the same class as there are four different options blocks (so a 25% chance of being together!)
- Picking a subject because you like a particular teacher (or not picking one because you don't)! We have multiple teachers for each subject so there is no guarantee who you are going to get.

The Curriculum Offer:

The **majority** of our students will study:

Five or Six CORE GCSEs:	1x English Language	1x English Literature	1x Mathematics	Science "Trilogy" (2x GCSEs)*
				Science "Triple" (3x GCSEs)*
Additional important CORE subjects (non-examined)	Core PE	Personal, Social and Health Education		
Four Option Subjects:	Option 1 (a Language) French, Spanish or German	Option 2 (a Humanity) Geography or History	Option 3 (Open choice)	Option 4 (Open choice)

** See Science subject pages for more detail*

FIVE TOP TIPS:

1. In the unlikely event you choose to not to take the Ebacc subjects, please make sure you understand the impact that will have on your college, university and career choices.
2. Ask for help from teachers and parents. Sometimes courses are not what you think they are so read the course guides carefully.
3. If you have a firm career idea, research it and choose your options accordingly. Unifrog is very helpful for this. Remember, no qualification is ever wasted.
4. Don't worry if you do not have to have a career in mind at this stage – most people don't! You just need to choose subjects and courses that will give you plenty of choice later on.
5. Choose subjects that you enjoy... but are willing to work hard at.

SUBJECT COMBINATIONS YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO CHOOSE:

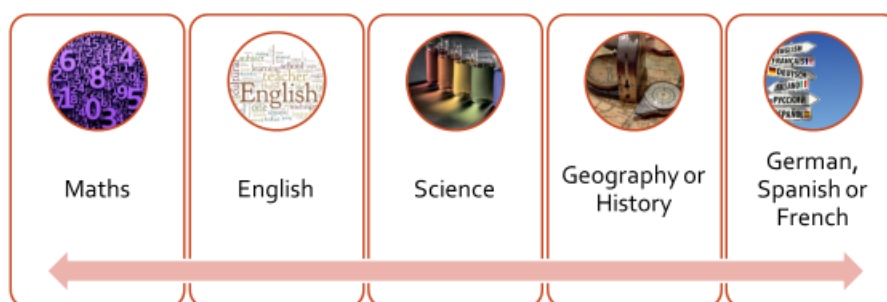
1. The following subject combination is not allowed because of the nature and content of the course are too similar to each other.
 - a. 3D Resistant Materials **and** Graphics

WHAT IS THE ENGLISH BACCALAUREATE (EBACC)?

The EBacc collection of subjects is not a qualification in itself, rather a collection of subjects that if a student takes them (and passes) they are said to have achieved the EBacc. The EBacc is recognised as a measure of student achievement by both employers and universities.

English Baccalaureate (Ebacc)

- The Ebacc is a collection of subjects a student can study. It is achieved if a student gets:
- Grade 4 (or above) in English, Maths, Sciences, a Language and either History or Geography



SHOULD I TAKE THE EBACC SET OF QUALIFICATIONS?

In most cases, yes. Our vision for our students is that they engage with the options that they are passionate about whilst leaving their options open for their future study and employment.

Some schools insist that students take the EBacc collection of subjects. The government's ambition is to see 75% of pupils studying the EBacc subject combination at GCSE by 2022, and 90% by 2025. At Yateley School we make the EBacc **available to all students and highly recommend it**. On some occasions we also recognise that it may not be right for an individual child. We run a **four**-option system at Yateley School (over 65% of schools offer three options) so that students still have a broad choice of creative and technology-based subjects to accompany their two EBacc choices. Whilst you might find a language or a humanity hard, it is often worth pursuing this subject combination because the fact that they are challenging is why they are so highly valued!

A WORD OF CAUTION:

When picking your option subjects, it is essential that you pay attention to the skills required to do well in that course. This is particularly true for subjects like computer science, the performing arts and physical education – they probably aren't what you think!

1. **Computer Science** requires you to be able to think logically, solve problems and have a keen attention to detail. Students wishing to study Computing should be targeted at least a GCSE Grade 4 in Mathematics. Computer Science bears very little resemblance to ICT!
2. **Dance, Drama** and **Music** all have a requirement to perform. You must be committed to this aspect of the course; students who do not wish to perform cannot enrol on these courses.
3. **GCSE PE** course will require all students to submit practical grades in **three** sports. It is highly advisable and advantageous if students regularly participate in at least one sport to a reasonably high standard.

If you are thinking of studying these subjects, you should make sure you are clear about the requirements of the course. As with all subjects, it is a good idea to meet with the appropriate teachers at the Subject Review Evening online or in person before making your option choices.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT CHOICES

Will I get my options?

Although every effort will be made to accommodate all students' choices, it is possible that certain alterations have to be made.

1. In some rare cases, courses do not run as there are insufficient numbers to make them viable, and in other cases there are a maximum number of students due to staffing.
2. Also, as we offer such a wide range of possible subject combinations it is possible that we will not always be able to meet every student's requests.

If in the event of a course being oversubscribed, students will be selected in the order of:

- Meeting the option form deadlines
- Good attendance
- Good behaviour
- Evidence of commitment to the subject both in lessons and beyond the classroom
- Possible career path
- Subject grades
- Teacher recommendation

We will, in the first instance, use the criteria above to decide who will be offered the course. If we can't resolve the situation through the use of the criteria and in the consultation with students and parents, we will use a means of random selection.

We therefore asked students to pick a reserve choice in the 'open choice' block in case we are unable to offer them all their other choices. Any changes that have to be made will be fully discussed with students and their parents.

Information about the subjects that are on offer is found on the following pages. It is important that you and your parents read these, so that you have an understanding of what the courses entail. You will be given help and advice in school about these decisions.

I hope it all goes well, and remember if you are not clear about anything make sure you ask us!

Mr Peter Hill
Deputy Headteacher – Curriculum and Progress

SUBJECT	GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE and ENGLISH LITERATURE
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CONTACT MRS S MEADOWS

EXAM BOARD AQA

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Assessment will be arranged as follows:

English Language

100% Exam

English Literature

100% Exam

COURSE DESCRIPTION

You will study language and literature in an integrated way throughout the course and will gain two separate GCSEs in English Language and English Literature. You will study a variety of prose, poetry and drama, including a Shakespeare text. You will also learn how to write in a variety of forms and styles to suit specific audiences and tasks.

In preparation for the above examinations you will explore and develop your ability to communicate in a variety of ways, and to understand, analyse and comment on what you read and hear. Written communication will include imaginative, descriptive and personal assignments, as well as more factual writing, such as articles, letters, reports and instructions.

You will be expected to read a wide range of English. All students will study a play by Shakespeare as well as poetry from the AQA anthology, a modern drama text and a 19th century prose text. There will also be opportunities to read modern fiction and study the media. Non-fiction is also an important part of the syllabus, and you will be expected to read and respond to a range of such writing.

The habit of wide personal reading around the subject is encouraged, and students are introduced to the rich and diverse canon of English literature. We certainly believe that this course will be a good foundation for those students wishing to continue with English at A Level, where we offer two separate courses: English Language and Literature and English Literature.

SUBJECT	GCSE MATHEMATICS
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CONTACT MRS COLLOFF

EXAM BOARD OCR

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

External Examination

The course is 100% assessed through three terminal examination papers taken in June. There are two calculator papers and one to be completed without a calculator.

The Mathematics GCSE has two overlapping levels, with the Foundation tier stretching students to a grade 5 and the Higher tier to grade 9.

Foundation Level Available grades 1-5

Higher Level Available grades 4-9

Students will be taught and entered for the level that gives them the best chance of achieving their target grade.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

All students will study the same fundamental Mathematics topics. They will pursue these to varying depths. The aim is to have each student challenged with mathematics at the appropriate level for them. The course covers five key areas of Mathematics; Number, Algebra, Geometry, Statistics and Ratio/Proportion and builds on previous knowledge throughout, gradually becoming more complex. The course will include the following areas of study:

Number concepts; computation with and without a calculator; ratio, proportion, percentage; measurement using all units in current use; personal and household finance; co-ordinates and graphs; algebra; geometry of lines, angles, polygons and circles; mensuration of shapes; collection, classification and presentation of statistical data; probability.

The course will offer a sound basis for the use of the subject in everyday life and at its highest level will provide good foundation for future work in Mathematics at A level.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT SCIENCE COURSES

It is expected that the majority of students will follow the Combined Science GCSE Science course which is equivalent to two GCSEs. A number of students will be invited to follow the Triple Science route leading to the award of separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

	Combined Science (most students)	Triple Science (some students)
Awards	2 GCSEs	3 GCSEs
Leading to:	AS/A2 Sciences	AS/A2 Science

SUBJECT	GCSE COMBINED SCIENCE TRILOGY
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(Double Award)

CONTACT MR W STACEY

EXAM BOARD AQA

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Exams contributing 100% of the total GCSE grade – 2 Biology exams, 2 Chemistry exams and 2 Physics exams.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The majority of students will study GCSE Combined Science, with the aim of acquiring the knowledge and understanding needed to engage, as informed citizens, with science-based issues.

During the course you will study Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics. You will develop your understanding of the main scientific concepts that provide a framework for making sense of the world. You will also have the opportunity to reflect on scientific knowledge itself, the practices that have produced it; the kinds of reasoning that are used in developing a scientific argument, and the issues that arise when scientific knowledge is put to practical use. Throughout the course you will have the opportunity to plan and carry out a broad range of investigative tasks and to consider and evaluate critically your own data and that obtained from other sources.

Why study Science?

Through your studies you will develop greater scientific knowledge, and the skills needed to apply it in new and changing situations in a range of domestic, industrial and environmental contexts. You will acquire an understanding of scientific ideas, how they develop, the factors which may affect their development and their power limitations.

This course will provide the opportunity to develop the scientific understanding needed to progress to further studies of Science at AS or A level.

SUBJECT	GCSE TRIPLE SCIENCE
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CONTACT	MR W STACEY
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EXAM BOARD	AQA
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COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH GCSE:

Two exams contributing 100% of each GCSE.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

During the Summer term of Year 9, a number of students who have shown particular aptitude and maturity in Science will be invited to study 'Triple Science' leading to three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

To take 'triple science' you will need to put in the necessary work and commitment to ensure that you succeed in this additional GCSE. This is an accelerated course: no additional lessons are allocated to cover the additional content. Instead lesson content will be covered more quickly, additional homework will be set and you will be expected to attend additional after school study sessions.

During the course you will study Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics. You will develop your understanding of the main scientific concepts that provide a framework for making sense of the world. You will also have the opportunity to reflect on scientific knowledge itself, the practices that have produced it; the kinds of reasoning that are used in developing a scientific argument, and the issues that arise when scientific knowledge is put to practical use. Through the study of extra topics you will have the opportunity to further develop an understanding of science explanations, how science works and the study of elements of applied science, with particular relevance to professional scientists. The extra topics covered introduce new scientific ideas while illustrating important features of their applications.

Throughout the course you will have the opportunity to plan and carry out a broad range of investigative tasks and to consider and evaluate critically your own data and that obtained from other sources.

Why study for the separate science qualification?

Through an extended study you will gain an insight into what is involved in being a practitioner of science. You will learn how scientists develop scientific understanding of ourselves and the world we inhabit and how these understandings can be applied to the benefit of humanity. You will have the opportunity to develop the scientific knowledge and understanding required to progress to further study of the Sciences at AS or A-level should you wish to.

SUBJECT	GCSE ART AND DESIGN
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CONTACT MRS BREEN

EXAM BOARD AQA

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Coursework (2 projects)	60%
Exam (1 project)	40%

A GCSE Art project consists of four main areas:

- Developing ideas – investigating, analysing and putting in context
- Experimenting and selecting – resources, media and techniques
- Recording – ideas and observations
- Presenting – An informal and meaningful response to a project

Students are guided through the first project and given freedom towards the end to focus on strengths and preferred areas of study.

The other projects are based upon themes where students are far more involved in what areas are studied. You still work within the familiar framework but choose how you interpret the theme with guidance from your teacher.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This GCSE is different from most in that it allows you to express yourself in a creative way – it is both enjoyable and challenging. You will be taught a variety of techniques, these may include printing, sculpture, ceramics, digital photography, painting and drawing. You will also be taught how to develop your work to produce exciting and imaginative project work. The work produced in these projects will go towards your exam marks.

For the final exam project, you will be given the paper well in advance, typically the first week in January – this gives you a chance to think through ideas, practise techniques, consult with your teacher and thoroughly prepare for the exam itself.

Why Study Art?

Art and Design is a subject where you learn to develop your creativity. If you enjoy drawing, painting or making things or if you enjoy finding creative ways of solving problems then this is the subject for you. There are many options after GCSE starting with AS and A level and leading to an ever-increasing range of Art related careers. Our society is becoming more visually literate and it needs people who can understand and develop visual ideas.

SUBJECT	GCSE DANCE
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CONTACT MRS WEARING

EXAM BOARD AQA

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

60% Practical 40% Theory

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Dance GCSE offers students the opportunity to develop skills, knowledge and understanding of dance as a choreographer, performer and critic. The course is highly practical and therefore you need to be fully fit and committed to all aspects of the course.

The course is open to all students who have a strong interest in creating their own work as well as performing alone and in small groups. Students who opt for dance must be self-disciplined and be prepared to rehearse at lunch times and after school during examination periods. You will be expected to keep a workbook of your theory work throughout the two-year course. Students are assessed in the following areas

Performance (30%)

Set phrases through a solo performance

You will be expected to perform set phrases of approximately 1 minute long.

Duo/Trio performance

You will be expected to perform in a small group dance, lasting 3½ minutes.

Solo or Group Choreography (30%)

You will be expected to choreograph either a solo (2 to 2½ mins) or a group (with 2 to 5 dancers) lasting 3 to 3½ minutes. The dance will be based on a prescribed list of stimuli.

Written Examination (40%)

Dance Appreciation

You will answer questions based on your knowledge and understanding of choreographic processes and performing skills, critical appreciation of your own and professional works. The paper is marked by the examination board.

Why Study Dance?

- You have a strong interest in performing dance in various styles
- You have a strong interest in creating dances and want to develop your creativity
- You enjoy being challenged and want to develop your skills as a performer
- You are keen to learn about professional dance works and gain a broader understanding of what types of dance and choreographers are working in the UK today

SUBJECT**GCSE DRAMA**

CONTACT

MISS TOTTMAN

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The GCSE course has three components.

Component 1: (40%) Students create and develop their own performance based on a stimulus. They create a portfolio of work to support this. This can be written (2000 words) or given as verbal evidence (8-10 minutes).

Component 2: (20%) Students perform in two key extracts from a performance text. Alternatively, students can work as a designer for these extracts. Marked by an external examiner.

Component 3: (40%): A written exam lasting 1 hour 45 minutes. This involves the study of a performance text and the evaluation of a Live Theatre production. Students will explore one performance text practically in lessons; learning how to work as actors, directors and designers in bringing the play to life for an audience. Students will go and watch a Live Theatre performance.

COURSE DESCRIPTION OF GCSE DRAMA

Students will explore Drama from the perspective of an actor, director, designer and audience member. Over the course students will learn a range of techniques and experiment with various performance styles. The course enables students to do both devised and scripted work. There is also a strong written component to this course which students need to commit to fully. Component 2 allows students to create a polished scripted performance which they perform in front of an audience and examiner. They will need to be willing to commit to after-school rehearsals in order to do this.

Why Study Drama?

GCSE Drama is an active and generally fun subject although you must be prepared to complete the written work also as this is 70% of the grade. It encourages creative thinking, teamwork, communication skills and confidence. You will have increased opportunities to watch live theatre, work with professional acting companies and use theatre technology.

GCSE Drama is a challenging, exciting and creative subject which allows students to develop personally, socially, academically and creatively.

SUBJECT	GCSE MUSIC
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CONTACT MRS PEJOVIĆ

EXAM BOARD EDUQAS GCSE MUSIC

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Composing	Coursework	Internally assessed	30%
Performing	Coursework	Externally moderated	30%
Listening and Appraising	Written exam		40%

COURSE DESCRIPTION

You will have to answer questions in the listening exam based on music heard on a CD. The exam lasts approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes.

- You will have to compose at least two pieces of music lasting about 2 or 4 minutes each. Both compositions must be individually composed, notated or written down, and recorded onto CD. You can use music technology to make up your music.
- You have to give 2 performances lasting no less than 4 minutes in total. They have to be recorded by your teacher. One performance must be solo and one must be ensemble performance (group). Solo and ensemble performance are usually from music composed by professional musicians. Grade 3 instrumental level is recommended.
- You will have the opportunity to compose and perform many pieces of music so that you can choose your best work to enter for coursework. The centre will choose pieces for your coursework.
- 60% of the course is about music that you produce.
- It helps if you already have instrumental or vocal lessons. These can be arranged for you if required.
- You don't just play music, you study music.
- You will learn about music that you haven't experienced before and you will begin to understand better the music you are familiar with.
- By learning to understand music, you will become a better performer and composer.
- We cover classical music, rock popular, jazz, musical theatre, fusion, film music and many other music genres.

Why Study Music?

- GCSE music is many things. You don't have to be a particular 'type' of student to enjoy and achieve well in this course.
- It is both fun and challenging to study music and extremely rewarding after performances and compositions are completed.
- Music is a special subject (both academic and practical) that allows people to be creative, disciplined in preparing performances and creating own compositions and is mentally challenging as there are many facts to learn and remember.
- Music develops lateral and logical thinking and as such enhances mathematical skills. It is also closely linked to languages, history and certain parts of science i.e. acoustics. Studying music strengthens understanding of other subjects.
- Employers like to work with people who have studied music as they are always able to work by themselves as well as part of a team.
- Musicians also understand how to meet deadlines; concert dates cannot be changed so you have to be ready!
- Your fine motor skills will improve, along with your coordination.
- Your ability to work with others and your own confidence will develop.
- You will learn to analyse in a more subjective manner, justifying your findings and 'thinking outside the box'.
- Research shows that musicians use every part of their brain. That can't be a bad thing.

If you need any more information about GCSE Music talk to Ms Pejovic.

CONTACT

MRS K EVANS

EXAM BOARD

AQA

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Paper 1 The human body and movement in physical activity and sport
Written Exam - 1 hour 15 minutes
78 marks (30% of GCSE)

Paper 2 Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport
Written Exam - 1 hour 15 minutes
78 marks (30% of GCSE)

Non-exam assessment: Practical performance in physical activity and sport **3 different physical activities** in the role of player/performer (one team activity, one individual activity and a third from either) it is useful if you participate to a high level. 75 marks (30% of GCSE)
Written analysis and evaluation of performance to bring about improvement in one activity. 25 marks (10% of GCSE)

COURSE DESCRIPTION**Paper 1 - The human body and movement in physical activity and sport**

- Bones, structure of the skeleton, functions of the skeleton
- Muscles of the body
- Structure of synovial joint, types of joints
- Structure and functions of the cardio-respiratory system
- Effective use of warm up and cool down
- The components of fitness, benefits for sport, measurement of fitness
- How to optimize training and prevent injury
- Movement analysis
- Lever systems
- Planes and axes of movement
- Physical Training
- Anaerobic and aerobic exercise
- Principles of training
- Use of data

Paper 2 - Socio-cultural influences and well-being in physical activity and sport

- Sports Psychology
- Goal setting and SMART targets
- Mental preparation for performance
- Basic information processing
- Ethical and socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport
- Socio-cultural influences
- Commercialisation of physical activity and sport
- Guidance and feedback on performance
- Health, fitness and well-being
- Nutrition

Why study GCSE Physical Education?

A GCSE qualification in PE may be useful in the following career areas: Leisure/Recreation Centre work, Recreation/Sports Management, Armed Services, Teaching, Police and Physiotherapy.

CONTACT

MISS SELF

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL (Specification B)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

You will complete 3 units in this GCSE. Each one is assessed by an **examination**. There is **no controlled assessment** anymore in Geography GCSE (used to be known as coursework). There is still a requirement to do 2 compulsory days **field work** during the GCSE course, one concentrating on physical geography, the other on human geography. For each of the exams we provide interactive revision materials and a revision guide.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Unit 1: Global Geographical Issues

- Hazardous earth – studies of tropical storms and tectonic hazards;
- Development dynamics - a study of an emerging country;
- Challenges of an urbanising world - a study of a mega city in a developing or emerging country.

Unit 2: UK Geographical Issues

- The UK's evolving physical landscape - studies of coastal and river landscapes including physical fieldwork investigation;
- The UK's evolving human landscape - studies of dynamic inner-cities and changing rural settlements including human fieldwork investigation.

Unit 3: People and Environment Issues – Making Geographical Decisions

- People and the biosphere;
- Forests under threat;
- Consuming energy resources.

Why study Geography at GCSE?

Geography helps you to make sense of the world around you. It is hands on, it is relevant and it is fun. The course will give you the chance to get to grips with some of the big questions which affect our world and understand the social, economic and physical forces and processes which shape and change our world.

It takes you on a journey exploring unusual (even strange) places, fascinating natural events, the actions and reactions of people who face life changing situations. You will be active in lessons, exploring and discovering Geography through practical group work and pair work activities. You will develop excellent investigative skills, decision making skills, ICT skills (using digital satellite images, street views and AEGIS – a Geographical Information System) and the ability to argue your viewpoints both spoken and in writing.

Geography as an academic subject is widely respected by employers and will enable you to study A levels and other further education courses. It forms part of the Ebacc and is also highly regarded as a facilitating subject for the UK's top universities. There has never been a better time to study Geography, so make the choice to go places by taking Geography at GCSE.

CONTACT MISS VINCI and MRS CURRAN

EXAM BOARD AQA

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This is an exciting course that covers a range of topics from modern history.

- **Paper One** –Written exam 2 hours, 84 marks, section A- 6 compulsory questions, section B- 4 compulsory questions (50% of GCSE)
- **Paper Two**- Written exam 2 hours, 84 marks, section A- 4 compulsory questions, section B- 4 compulsory questions. (50% of GCSE)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Paper One- Understanding the Modern World

Section A- America, 1920-1973- Opportunity and Inequality

This period study focuses on the development of the USA during a turbulent half century of change. Some Americans lived the 'American Dream' whilst others grappled with the nightmare of poverty, discrimination and prejudice.

Section B- Conflict and Tension in Asia, 1950-1975

This wider world depth study enables students to understand the complex and diverse interests of different states and individuals and the ideologies they represented. It focuses on the conflicts in Korea and Vietnam.

Paper Two- Shaping a Nation

Section A- Britain: Health and the People c.1000 to the present day

This thematic study will enable students to gain an understanding of how medicine and public health developed in Britain over a long period of time. It considers the causes, scale, nature and consequences of short and long term developments, their impact on British society.

Section B- Elizabethan England, 1558 - 1603

This option allows students to study in depth the last 35 years of Elizabeth I's reign. The study will focus on major events of Elizabeth I's reign considered from economic, religious, political, social and cultural standpoints.

Why study History?

History plays a powerful part in your general education. It provides you with the skills of analysis, interpretation, evaluation and communication which are very much in demand in the workplace and is a highly valued subject on any application form. There are a very large number of successful people in the worlds of business and public affairs who have studied History well beyond GCSE. Due to its study of human action History is regarded as of great value in any fields of employment involving contact with real people. History is well respected and gives you the opportunity to hone invaluable skills.

CONTACT MR BRISTOW

EXAM BOARD EDUQAS

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

100% exam. No coursework.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Religious Studies is a thought provoking, interesting and insightful subject to study at GCSE, it is therefore very popular and has a high uptake.

We look at issues that affect everyone and ask the sort of questions many of you will be already asking yourselves.

- Should we go to war?
- Is abortion murder?
- Should we help people in pain to die?
- Should divorcees be allowed to remarry in church?
- Can it ever be right to end a life even for the most serious crimes?

We study Christianity as a world religion, we discover why people want their children baptised, examine Christmas as a religious or commercial festival; discover why Christians pray and assess how effective they think it is.

We also study a number of contemporary moral issues including racism, abortion, crime and punishment, war and peace, divorce, and medical technology. These topics always lead to heated debates!

Religious Studies teaches students to evaluate important moral issues by examining different viewpoints and gives students the skills to draw informed opinions.

The subject is not only widely accepted but welcomed as an entry qualification for further and higher education courses. It develops a wide range of skills, including those essential for enquiry, interpretation, reasoning, evaluation and communication.

Why Study Religious Studies?

Religious Studies provides skills not only for work and for learning – but for life!

SUBJECTS	GCSE MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES
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GCSE FRENCH, GCSE GERMAN AND GCSE SPANISH

CONTACT MS McCABE

EXAM BOARD AQA

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

There are four key skills tested at GCSE – listening, speaking, reading and writing.

All four skills are tested at the end of the course all via external examinations. These examinations can be taken at Foundation or Higher level but they all must be taken at the same tier. It is worth to note that the speaking assessment is carried out 1:1 by the class teacher and is marked by the examination board.

It is important to remember that being successful in a language will involve a lot of independent work and resilience. The more you put into your lessons, the more you will get out of them.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The GCSE course builds on work done in KS3 and aims to develop:

- understanding the language in a range of situations including my family, my free-time, where I live, holidays and leisure, my education and future plans.
- the ability to communicate effectively in speech and writing;
- knowledge and understanding of grammar and the ability to apply it;
- knowledge and understanding of the countries and communities where French, Spanish and German are spoken;
- positive attitudes to language learning which will help in study of other languages or academic disciplines later in life.

There will be opportunities for you to use the internet and various authentic materials. There may also be visits organised to France, Spain and Germany to support your language learning.

Why study a language?

A foreign language opens new horizons and will be extremely useful no matter what career you envisage doing. Those who have foreign language skills will always have the edge in the job market; it is also possible to combine the study of a language with a wide range of other subjects in further education.

Also, a language makes travel abroad much easier and far more interesting!

Please note...

French, Spanish and German are offered at GCSE, however, you can only study the language at GCSE that you have studied at Key Stage 3, unless you have previous knowledge from outside school. It is possible, and for those who have the ability and aptitude, to study two languages at GCSE if they are in different blocks.

CONTACT

MISS WILLIAMS

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Coursework project (50% of the total mark)

Examination (50% of the total mark)

The coursework project consists of the designing and making of graphical products using card, paper, foam board or similar materials. Examples of coursework projects include packaging, pop-up books, board games, point of sale display stands, table talkers; adverts/posters/DVD covers etc. The examination paper consists of questions based on drawing fundamentals, graphics techniques, product analysis, graphic materials and sustainability issues.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is concerned with teaching the principles of design and uses the design process to generate a range of solutions in response to a design brief. You will learn the basic skills of drawing including isometric, perspective, planometric and orthographic projection and how to be selective in choosing the correct method to communicate and illustrate your design ideas. Students are involved in designing and making activities using both hand techniques and a range of computer packages and CAD/CAM. In graphics students will use Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, Techsoft 2D Design tools, Sketch up and Microsoft office packages particularly Publisher.

In Year 10 you learn and work through a range of tasks and mini projects that teach formal drawing methods and constructions as well as design and creative solutions. Students are involved in projects ranging from product design and interior design to packaging and logo design. Students gain a good understanding of the design process and use knowledge of materials and processes to develop their ideas and solve problems.

In Year 11 you complete the coursework project, making use of the design process to research, design, develop and then realise your design solution. This project will be based on a contextual challenge set by the exam board and you will submit a design folder and 3D Graphic prototype. The main focus of the project is the manufacture of quality prototype model using a range of appropriate materials and Computer Aided Design.

Why Study Graphics?

Each section of the course is set as a problem-solving exercise and seeks to encourage creative thought and a high standard of communication skills. Students will learn how to use a range of 2D and 3D computer aided design packages that are used in the design industry, as well as experience a variety of graphic modelling techniques. This course would be a suitable foundation for a variety of future careers including advertising, architecture, product design, graphic design, industrial design, interior design, illustration and animation. We have an A level course which is a continuation from this GCSE, which is also highly popular. Many of our past students have also gone on to study Design related courses at further education.

CONTACT

MR SIBBALD

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Innovation Challenge coursework project (50% of the total mark)

Examination (50% of the total mark)

The Innovation Challenge tasks students with researching, designing, making and evaluating the success of a Product for a real client/end user. To complete this the students may use textiles, card, foam board, metals, thermoplastics or timbers. There is no common outcome, every project is unique and uses the widest possible range of skills.

The examination paper consists of questions based on Product Design Core knowledge of textiles, thermoplastics, paper and board, metals, timbers and Maths as well as specialist questions on timber-based products.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In Year 10, you will build on your KS3 learning to develop all the skills needed to undertake your major project in Year 11. You will complete three mini projects **Industry** designing and making a prototype of a toy for a disabled child, **Disaster** designing and making a model of a Textiles based shelter for refugees and **Production** Techniques focused on Injection Moulding. In all you will be working in Textiles, Polymers, Card and Board, Metals and Timbers. You will learn how to create files in 2D Design that can then be laser cut in Acrylic or MDF, you will also spend time developing your researching creative design, drawing and presentation skills. In year 11, you will undertake a single design and make activity (major project) in response to a Contextual Challenge set by the exam board. You will need to submit a 3-dimensional outcome in a combination of materials and a concise design folder.

Why study 3D Product Design?

This course is for you if you are prepared to take on a challenge, are inventive, creative, an independent learner and hard-working. Do NOT consider this course if you do not carry out homework and home study which in Year 10 should be of about two hours a week. Do NOT consider this course if you want to merely make - manufacture is about 10% of the course, the rest is research, design and exam preparation.

A GCSE in 3D Product Design encourages innovation, it gives you the opportunity to produce designs applicable in the real world as well as giving you valuable experience needed for the A Level course. All in all, it's a very rigorous, exciting, relevant, and challenging choice as well as being great fun. It provides a strong foundation for further education and careers in the creative industries as a Product Designer, Architect, Industrial or Interior Designer.

SUBJECT	GCSE BUSINESS STUDIES
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CONTACT MISS NICHOLSON

EXAM BOARD AQA

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The new GCSE Business Studies course consists of six main topic areas:

1. Business in the Real World
2. Influences on Business
3. Business Operations
4. Human Resources
5. Marketing
6. Finance

Assessment is through two external exams consisting of a range of multiple choice, short-answer and longer-answer questions from case study analysis. Exams are sat at the end of Year 11.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

GCSE Business Studies gives students the opportunity to explore real business issues and how businesses work. The variety of topics studied gives students the opportunity to explore concepts by looking at real business examples ranging from small enterprises to large, global companies. Students can gain an understanding of all areas of business along with an awareness of how the economy and the changing world around us affects the decisions businesses make.

Why study GCSE Business Studies?

Businesses play an important part in all our lives and this is a relevant subject whatever career path you eventually choose, whether you want to start your own business or work for an existing company. Studying GCSE Business Studies allows you to understand how the businesses around you work and investigate new business opportunities for the future. The course provides you with the key skills of decision-making, problem solving and evaluation, all in the context of the real world.

SUBJECT	GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE
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CONTACT MRS COBBOLD

EXAM BOARD OCR

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Exam 100%

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a course that has real relevance in our modern world. It will give students an in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. There are two components in this GCSE:

Component 01 – Computer Systems (Exam 50%)

- Systems architecture
- Memory and storage
- Computer networks, connections and protocols
- Network security
- Systems software
- Ethical, legal, cultural and environmental impacts of digital technology

Component 02 – Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming (Exam 50%)

- Algorithms
- Programming fundamentals
- Producing robust programs
- Boolean logic
- Programming languages and Integrated Development Environments

Practical Programming

Students will be given the opportunity to undertake programming tasks to solve problems during their course of study.

Why Study Computer Science?

This course will help you to develop computational thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills. These skills can be transferred to other subjects and even applied in day-to-day life. If you want to go on to higher study and employment in the field of Computer Science then this course will provide a sound underpinning knowledge of this subject.

Note:

Computer programming is challenging and requires attention to detail and logical thinking. Whilst we will be teaching the programming skills required on this course, it is important that students enjoyed the programming they did in KS3 and enjoy problem solving and working independently if they are to do well.

SUBJECT	PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH & ECONOMIC EDUCATION (PSHE) INCLUDING RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION (RSE) & CAREERS
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CONTACT **MRS WILLIAMS**

This subject is compulsory but is not an examination subject; it is taught once every two weeks in a single timetabled lesson throughout Years 10 and 11.

In addition, all students complete a planned programme of study during Tutor Time over the course of the two years covering additional aspects of RSE and Careers Education.

Why Study PSHE?

Any society depends on good citizens for its success and good PSHE education ensures that young people grow up able to contribute wisely and thoughtfully to their community. The skills developed during PSHE and RSE are the so called “soft skills” so valued by universities and employers.

PSHE allows our students to acquire a range of important skills vital for personal effectiveness in an increasingly complex world, where sensible judgements require increasingly higher levels of knowledge, skill and understanding. Through our Careers programme, we aim to help students envision their future, set goals for themselves and gain information and understanding of the world that awaits them.

We also seek to give students the capacity to weigh up the advantages and disadvantages of various life choices and thereby make informed and well considered decisions.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

We cover six core themes within PSHE lessons;

- Rights, Responsibilities and British Values
- Celebrating Diversity and Equality
- Relationships and Sex Education
- Staying Safe Online and Offline
- Health and Wellbeing
- Life Beyond School

PSHE at Yateley School is designed to meet the needs of the young people in our community and builds on the themes covered and work undertaken in Years 7, 8 & 9.

STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES

Remember that everyone is individual and will have different strengths and weaknesses from someone else. For example, some people are very creative and can put that creativity into words when others are excellent at drawing or painting or designing and making. You need to think about what you are really good at in order to succeed and to enjoy the subject. We want you to keep as many choices open as possible and there will be some subjects that you will have to study – and this is detailed at the front of this booklet - but we will also help you to choose the right subject for you.

Look at the careers software (Unifrog), and decide what skills are required, how jobs that interest you might affect your life and which subjects will help you achieve your ambitions.

Why do you think people choose certain subjects? Try to answer these questions for yourself - please circle ✓ or x as it might apply to you.

Like or am interested in the subject	✓	x
Help in future job	✓	x
Want subjects which can be passed at GCSE	✓	x
Good at the subject	✓	x
Would help in home or hobbies	✓	x
Want a variety of subjects – leave career open	✓	x
Would help understand the world	✓	x
Do not like other options	✓	x
Do not want to waste three years' work	✓	x
High exam marks in subjects in year 9	✓	x
Want to do new subjects	✓	x
Parents want me to choose a certain subject(s)	✓	x
No good at other options	✓	x
Like the teachers who teach the subject	✓	x
Teachers advise me to choose their subject	✓	x
Want some easy subjects	✓	x
Not able to choose the subjects I wanted to	✓	x
Cannot think what else to do	✓	x